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Letter from Thomas G. Clemson to Floride Clemson, 1887 April 26

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Recommended Citation

"Letter from Thomas G. Clemson to Floride Clemson, 1887 April 26" (1887). *Thomas Green Clemson Papers, Mss 2*. 1489.

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Fort Hill April 26th 1887. Ch, de

My dear Florida

April 25th 1887. ed 26.

87

Yours of the 23rd inst. came duly
to hand by last evening's mail.
When the quality of the spring at or near
Duron in Georgia struck me as being so
wonderful that at the time I wrote to the
Post-master of the place and the account
which was given me then has gone
on attracting more and more attention
from the more that go there and find
themselves relieved. Many that are
curved unable to walk, after a short
time in the digging get up walk
as if they never had been afflicted.
The discovery was made last December
I think, and they have put up a Hotel
for the sick. I sent the paper which
you tell me was received thinking
that the curative qualities might have
wonderful effect upon Mr Lee. He
can write himself & ascertain more
than I know. When you think of the

case it would require he would try
to his hearty content. The season
is advancing the weather here is
delightful & vegetation is as green
as ever it gets to be, The trains that
run to New York carry Pullman
sleepers ~~are~~ which you are as com-
fortable as you could be in your own
house. You could come here where
I thought you would be in February
now it will be May by the time
you receive this letter.

I think that I know - what a miserable
life you lead where you are - You seek
one of your age & sex. & it can not be
otherwise than you should be unhappy
& before your father becomes sensible
of your condition you may proceed
him to the grave. I think this coun-
try or Fort Hill is as healthful as it
is at New York but whether it is
always so at all times during every

all the finest crops that ever grew.
One more such destruction during
the next year will bank up the State
of South Carolina irretrievably -

We have lost three crops successively
and this year we planted a heavy
crop which was the admiration of the
community. Then it rained in the mts
above us & the water came down
as if a water spout came & inundated
this & destroyed every thing that looked
so promising so that we have to live
on beef which is very fine but nothing
more not a tomatoe but plenty of the
finest turnips so sweet that I eat them
in preference to Potatoes but we have
some sweet potatoes that take every that
we have we get along thus well. I
have but two horses for the carriage
& I hope I will be able to procure feed
for them but that remains to be seen.
I do want much to see you some times as
You see my writing I am so nervous that all
I can do is to beg your pardon. Yrs. Clemson

22^d P. Apr. 26, 1887

Supper S. do

You tell me that you have prepared to send me a kind remembrance for Xmas - I A. C6266. I feel grateful for your kind remembrance. Already I have in daily use those comfortable and beautiful objects that you sent two years since. The muffler which I wear around the lower part of my face & neck & the wristlet which I wear on at this writing & put on every morning. Then that beautiful rug or cover for riding very beautiful & greatly admired. It would be impossible to purchase such coloring or wanted & I have never seen any of the ladies in this region engaged in such work. Mrs Lee I fear will hardly trust himself from the fine coal unbracket fires to which he is accustomed, Besides our usual discomforts we have enough wood to keep us comfortable during the winter where the doors are scarce ever shut & the sun shining bright in the day but these long nights & that day light is hard to get through. Tho the days are bright the nights are dark & as day approaches it is cold & the ground is scarce more the having a thin skin of frozen snow.

Please tell your father that last August she had two overflows which destroyed

month in the year it is more than
I say. Certainly this year & last
year we had much colder weather
than I ever experienced in any country
during any winter that I passed
in Europe. It is not I think
as a climate equal to other parts of
the United States. I shall never
forget the cold winds that prevail
the very walk around the house on
that piazza on three sides of the
dwelling would if pursued for one
hour a day, would according to my
experience be enough to kill any one.

I have been living for an ordinary
life time at Fort Hill & I think if
our Lee would come here & try to
make himself comfortable he would let
Garnet alone for the rest of his life.
At the house where Dr. Cuthbert
lives at Poncellton called the Larkin
house it is much needed repair.
Dr. Cuthbert was here for a few.

minutes last week, they tell me that he never pays any rent. Dr. Edd me that they take in boarders Dr. C. does not do much practice if he depended upon the practice of medicine in ~~Camden~~ he would starve certainly.

I was sorry to hear that Miss McBruck was so sick as to prevent her going to Brooklyn. I am very sure that the life you lead in Mr. Lee's is far from being conducive to health & would require an exceptional strong person to stand the winds & that prevail at Leedside. Besides the amusement of improving a place like where Mr. Lee has pitched his house take all in all, it is about the last place. I would like you to see Fort Hill now that I have my paintings. Hester has her organ & plays quite well by the time you come. She will play very well, Hester is smart, has a good musical talent & is remarkably well educated, I think you would be very well pleased with her if you know her. God bless you all, I hope to see Mr. Lee cured & perhaps if he neglects Sharon it may never be.
Your grand father J. S. Clemons